Meat Export

22. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether meat is exported from India; and

(b) if so, the places from where meat is exported and the names of the animals whose meat is exported?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Meat is exported from Bombay, Delhi, Trivandrum, Madras, Cochin and Nhavashiva. Bulk of meat exported is of buffalo, though some small quantity of meal of sheep and goat is also exported.

[*English*]

Merger of public sector banks incurring losses

23. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL:
SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of public sector banks in the country have suffered heavy losses recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government propose to merge such banks with other public sector banks earning profits;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the steps proposed to be taken to improve their functioning?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) No, Sir. Out of the 26 public sector banks which have finalised their accounts for the year ended 31st March, 1991, only one bank has shown a loss.

(b) UCO Bank has shown a loss of Rs. 42.96 crores during the year 1990-91. Deficiencies in credit administration both at appraisal and post sanction stages and unsatisfactory recovery performance have affected the earning capacity of the bank. Factors like high Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR) and Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR), administered interest rate structure, priority sector lending at concesional rates of interest etc. have also had an adverse impact on profitability of the banks including UCO Bank.

(c) No such proposal for UCO Bank is under consideration at present.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Government and Reserve Bank of India have taken a number of steps for improving the profitability of the banking system to ensure its viability and self sustained growth. The measures taken include strengthening of the capital base, rationlisation of service charges and interest rates structure and containment of staff growth. For reinforcing the financial viability the banks have been advised to ensure better credit management, raise productivity and effect economy wherever possible. To provide the competitive edge to banks new money market instruments like certificates of deposits and commercial papers have been introduced. Banks have also been permitted to diversify their activities.

Recognition to stock exchange at Chandigarh

24. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether a proposal for recognition of Stock Exchange at Chandigarh is pending with the Government for a long time;